

Message Text

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61

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

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R 061400Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5959

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION GENEVA

USIA WASHDC

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD BY POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 1781

GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

USIA FOR IBS, IEE

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINT UR

SUBJ: SOLZHENITSYN

1. LITGAZ FEBRUARY 6 PUBLISHES SUMMARY OF SPEECHES AT
JANUARY 28-29 ALL-UNION CONFERENCE OF LITERARY CRITICS
AT WHICH SOLZHENITSYN ATTACKED IN CONTEXT OF NEED TO FEND
OFF WESTERN CRITICISM OF SOVIET LITERATURE. L. NOVICHENKO,
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SECRETARY OF ALL-UNION WRITERS UNION AND CHAIRMAN OF ITS

LITERARY CRITICISM COMMISSION, ASSAILED THE WRITER ALONG PREVIOUS LINES, SAYING THAT SOVIET WRITERS UNANIMOUSLY ASSERT THAT "THERE IS NO PLACE IN OUR SOCIETY FOR PEOPLE LIKE SOLZHENITSYN." REST OF SPEECHES EMPHASIZED THAT "SOCIALIST REALISM" IS STILL THE ONLY ACCEPTABLE LITERARY APPROACH AND CALLED IN GENERAL TERMS FOR IDEOLOGICAL BELT TIGHTENING IN FIELD OF LITERATURE.

2. WE HAVE HEARD THAT WRITERS UNION MEETINGS ARE BEING USED AS FORUMS FOR EXPOUNDING OFFICIAL LINE ON SOLZHENITSYN AND FOR WARNING OTHER DISSIDENT WRITERS THAT THEY ARE UNDER THE GUN. PUBLISHED VERSIONS OF SPEECHES AT LITERARY CONFERENCE TEND TO CONFIRM RUMORS IN MOSCOW CULTURAL CIRCLES OF POSSIBLE INTENSIFIED CAMPAIGN AGAINST NON-CONFORMIST ACTIVITIES.

3. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT WEST GERMAN MAGAZINE CARRIED INTERVIEW WITH SERGEI MIKHALKOV, CHAIRMAN OF MOSCOW WRITERS UNION, IN WHICH MIKHALKOV REPORTEDLY INDICATED THAT REGIME WOULD IGNORE SOLZHENITSYN IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT HIS ACTIVITIES ARE CONSIDERED TO HAVE MADE NO IMPACT ON SOVIET SOCIETY. DEVELOPMENT OF THIS THEME WOULD BE NOTEWORTHY STEP AND WOULD HELP EXPLAIN RECENT DECLINE IN NEW ATTACKS ON SOLZHENITSYN.
DUBS

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NNN

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